

Siege of Fort Watauga at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area is May 15 -16

Join over 150 living historians from seven states for a glimpse into life on the North Carolina Frontier in 1776. Visit Fort Watauga and talk with members of the Washington County Militia to see what life might have been like for settlers besieged in a small palisade. Stroll through the British and Tory camps and visit with the North Carolina Highland Regiment and the 42nd Lights to hear the views of Great Britain on the subject of American Independence. Visit with the South Carolina Rangers, Moseley's Rangers, and the 1st Maryland Regiment in the Patriot Militia camp where Liberty is on the lips of everyone. Visit the Hunter's camp and hear stories of those who wish to peacefully coexist with the Natives. Finally, venture through the Cherokee camp and hear firsthand accounts of the struggle against the encroaching whites.

Bring the entire family to Sycamore Shoals for an action packed event full of history, fun, and excitement. Admission is FREE so plan to spend the entire day immersed in the 18th century.

Saturday, May 15 (all times EDT)

- 10:00 Raising of the Colours (Fort Watauga)
- 11:00 Capture of Lydia Bean (Native Camp)
- 12:00 Recruitment of Children into His Majesty's Service (British Camp)
- 1:00 Battle Reenactment: "Siege of Fort Watauga"
- 2:30 Auction (Fort Watauga)
- 4:30 Retiring the Colours (Fort Watauga)
- 5:00 Camps closed to the public

Sunday, May 16 (all times EDT)

- 10:00 Raising the Colours (Fort Watauga)
- 11:00 Worship Service (Fort Watauga)
- 12:00 Frontier Funeral (Fort Watauga)
- 2:00 Battle Reenactment: Siege of Fort Watauga
- 4:00 Camps closed to the public

In addition to the scheduled events, daily activities include: Flintlock Musket Demonstrations, Soap Making, Militia Drill & Camp Life, Open Hearth Cooking, Blacksmithing, Native History & Culture, British & Loyalist Camps, Rope Making, and Colonial Merchants & Sutlers. Hear the rattle of muskets, smell the campfire smoke, witness the past come to life, and see how you can make history at Fort Watauga. For more information please contact Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area at **(423) 543-5808**.



It is the summer of 1776. Patriot leaders meet in Philadelphia to draft a document that will sever our ties with Great Britain. While the Continental Congress is fighting for freedom with the pen, backwoods settlers are fighting for it with rifle and sword. Native Cherokee, armed by the British, are moving against isolated farms and homesteads. Makeshift forts and stockades are erected to defend against the attack that is inevitable. The frontier is ablaze with activity. Settlers struggle to hold the land and Cherokee fight to defend their centuries old culture. Life on the frontier hangs in a delicate balance, either fight for freedom or face annihilation. It all comes together at Fort Watauga this weekend at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area in Elizabethton, TN.